

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. - 53. (Canceled)

54. (New) A system for charging or maintaining a charge of a battery, the system comprising:

an energy-transforming cell that can convert light energy received from a light source into electrical current, wherein the cell is in parallel with other energy-transforming cells;

a switch for controlling flow of current to a battery;

a battery connector that electrically communicates the battery with the switch; and

an electrical connector, in electrical communication between each cell and the switch, for communicating electrical current from each cell to the switch;

wherein a charge of the battery is maintained or increased when each cell converts light incident upon the cell into electrical current.

55. (New) The system of claim 54, further comprising:

a translucent sheet positioned on the cell for protecting the cell from contaminants without completely blocking light influx onto the cell.

56. (New) The system of claim 54, wherein the cell comprises a photovoltaic cell.

57. (New) The system of claim 56, wherein the photovoltaic cell is covered by a protective translucent cover.

58. (New) The system of claim 54, wherein the switch comprises a receiving socket for receiving the electrical connector.

59. (New) The system of claim 54, wherein the switch comprises a variable current flow switch for controlling a variable rate of current flow to the battery.

60. (New) The system of claim 54, wherein the switch comprises an on/off switch for allowing either a full flow of current to the battery or no flow at all.

61. (New) A system for charging or maintaining a charge of a battery, the system comprising:

plurality of parallel means for converting light energy received from a light source into electrical current;

means for communicating electrical current from each converting means with a battery, wherein each converting means has its own independent communicating means distinct from communicating means of converting means; and

means for controlling the rate of current flowing into the battery;

wherein a charge of the battery is maintained or increased when each converting means converts light incident upon the cell into electrical current.

62. (New) The system of claim 61, further comprising:
a translucent sheet positioned on the cell for protecting the cell from contaminants without completely blocking light influx onto the cell.

63. (New) The system of claim 61, wherein the cell comprises a photovoltaic cell.

64. (New) The system of claim 63, wherein the photovoltaic cell is covered by a protective translucent cover.

65. (New) The system of claim 61, wherein the switch comprises a receiving socket for receiving the electrical connector.

66. (New) The system of claim 61, wherein the switch comprises a variable current flow switch for controlling a variable rate of current flow to the battery.

67. (New) The system of claim 61, wherein the switch comprises an on/off switch for allowing either a full flow of current to the battery or no flow at all.

68. (New) A method of charging or maintaining the charge of a battery, the method comprising:

exposing a plurality of parallel energy-transforming cells to a light source, each cell being able to convert light energy received from a light source into electrical current; and

communicating the electrical current produced by each cell with the battery using an electrical connector, wherein each cell has its own independent electrical connector distinct from electrical connectors of other cells, thereby maintaining the charge of the battery.

69. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the switch comprises a receiving socket for receiving the electrical connector.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein the receiving socket comprises a cigarette lighter receiving socket.

71. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the switch comprises a variable current flow switch for controlling a variable rate of current flow to the battery.

72. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the switch comprises an on/off switch for allowing either a full flow of current to the battery or no flow at all.

73. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the battery is in a vehicle.